

SUBJECT: United Farm Workers et al.

FILE: 44-43004

F B I

Date: 7/24/69

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via A I R T E L \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI  
 FROM: SAC, PHOENIX (62-1634) (C)

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;  
 UNITED FARM WORKERS  
 ORGANIZING COMMITTEE - COMPLAINANT  
 CIVIL RIGHTS

There are enclosed to the Bureau four copies of a letterhead memorandum incorporating the request of Assistant U. S. Attorney PHILIP S. MALINSKY, a letter from one GUSTAVO GUTIERREZ of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, and some newspaper clippings from the local press in connection with a local labor matter.

It is the opinion of the Phoenix Office that any interviews conducted in this matter will inject the Bureau into a labor dispute now currently in progress in Arizona between the United Farm Workers Union and Arizona grape growers. In the absence of a clear-cut violation of the civil rights statutes, as set forth in a three-page letter from GUSTAVO GUTIERREZ, no interview with the latter individual will be conducted pending Bureau instructions. It is recommended that this matter be brought to the attention of the Civil Rights Division of the Department for a determination as to the action which should be taken.

3 - Bureau (Enc 4) (AM)  
 1 - Phoenix

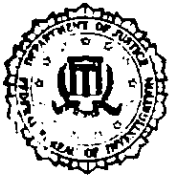
CLC:rs  
 (4)

1 cc CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT

1cc: AAG Civil Rights Division  
 Form 6-94 13- 29th July 29, 1969

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
 Special Agent in Charge

300



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Phoenix, Arizona  
July 24, 1969

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

RE: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;  
UNITED FARM WORKERS  
ORGANIZING COMMITTEE - COMPLAINANT  
CIVIL RIGHTS

---

Attached hereto is a request of Assistant United States Attorney Philip S. Malinsky, which is predicated on the complaint contained in a three-page letter from Mr. Gustavo Gutierrez, Arizona Representative of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee. Pertinent newspaper clippings from the local press are also attached.

4-4-1-1  
ENCLOSURE

301

United States Department of Justice

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

DISTRICT OF ARIZONA  
FEDERAL BUILDING  
PHOENIX 85025

July 18, 1969

Mr. John P. Mull, Jr.  
Special Agent in Charge  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
P. O. Box 431  
Phoenix, Arizona

Dear Mr. Mull:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter dated July 15, 1969, from Gustavo Gutierrez to this office. We request that Mr. Gutierrez be interviewed to ascertain if there may be a possible violation of 18 U.S.C. 242 or other federal law.

The charges contained in the letter are of a general nature and do not identify any law enforcement officials or other individuals by name. It is our desire to have more specific information concerning the events alleged in the letter, plus any additional grievances Mr. Gutierrez may be able to bring to your attention. Please submit the results of your interview of Mr. Gutierrez to us for consideration before conducting any further interviews or investigation.

Very truly yours,

RICHARD K. BURKE  
United States Attorney

*Philip S. Malinsky*  
PHILIP S. MALINSKY  
Assistant U. S. Attorney

PSM:pm  
Encl.

302

# AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR AND CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

GEORGE MEANY  
PRESIDENT  
WM. F. SCHNITZLER  
SECRETARY-TREASURER  
WILLIAM L. KIRCHER  
DIRECTOR OF ORGANIZATION

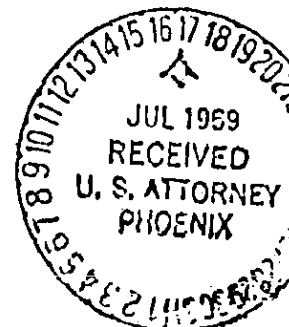


**UNITED FARM WORKERS**  
ORGANIZING COMMITTEE  
CESAR CHAVEZ DIRECTOR  
LARRY ILLIONG ASST. DIRECTOR  
GUSTAVO GUTIERREZ  
ARIZONA REPRESENTATIVE

POST OFFICE BOX 133 TOLLESON, ARIZONA 85333  
TELEPHONE AREA CODE 602-936-4333

July 15, 1969

Dr. Richard K. Burke  
United States Attorney  
500 Federal Building  
Phoenix, Arizona



Dear Sir:

The United Farm Workers Organizing Committee is conducting a strike at several grape ranches located in the general area west of Phoenix, Arizona. The strike began on June 17, 1969 and will probably continue until the grape harvest is finished. The purpose of this letter is to relate some of the actions of the Maricopa County Sheriff's Department during the strike and to request an investigation of this conduct.

While there has been no major single incident involving misconduct by the Sheriff's Department there has been a constant occurrence of small incidents which when viewed in their entirety establish a clear pattern of harassment of the strikers, organizers and pickets. This harassment by the Sheriff's Department infringes upon the civil liberties of those involved and represents a clear attempt by the police to intimidate all the farm workers, both actual union members and potential union members.

Some of the incidents which have occurred will now be described:

1. A Deputy Sheriff stood by idly while a ranch foreman "roughed up" a priest who works with the farm workers. The priest has his strike buttons torn off his shirt, his hat taken off, filled with grapes and run over by a tractor. The Deputy's explanation for refusing to act was that his department was "neutral" in this labor dispute. The priest was told that if he wanted to take action he would have to proceed on his own; and after he did file a complaint, the Sheriff's Department tried to persuade him to withdraw it. On another occasion when a foreman ripped a picket sign out of the hands of one of the pickets, a Deputy stood by idly.
2. A union member who went to work on a ranch one morning was followed into the fields by a Deputy who then told the foreman that the man was a union member and had been picketing. The Deputy then demanded the man's identification, although he had done nothing wrong, and interrogated him for no apparent reason.

303

3. Under the guise of directing traffic the police waved the cars of workers into the fields of one of the struck ranches thereby preventing the pickets from talking to the workers in order to persuade the latter to join the strike.
4. The union members are constantly followed by the Sheriff's Department when they drive their cars anywhere and are constantly stopped by the deputies for no apparent reason or for minor traffic offenses which are tenuous at best. The union members are then required to show identification and answer questions. The police also sit in their cars outside the union offices during meetings and on other occasions.
5. After work one day a car load of union members was following a bus full of workers to talk to them about joining the union after the bus stopped. After following for a short distance the police got one car in front of the union members and one car behind them and then pulled them over. The police then requested all the union members to come down to the station where they were required to show identification and submit to interrogation. Again this action by the police was for no apparent reason and no one was charged. The obvious effect, of course, of the police action was to separate the union members from the bus and to prevent the union members from talking to workers in the bus when it reached its destination.
6. Several farm workers have been fired for signing union authorization cards which is a violation of Arizona law. The police, after investigating, admitted clear violations had occurred, but refused to proceed with any prosecution on the grounds that they were "neutral" in this labor dispute.
7. A Deputy went into the fields, obtained some grapes and came back to the picket line and ate them telling the pickets how good they tasted, virtually taunting the pickets. Although this act is of course not itself illegal it is very symbolic in this dispute and becomes quite meaningful in the context of the other acts.
8. A Deputy went up to some pickets on country dirt road and told them they had to walk twenty feet apart. When a picket responded that the law provided only that they not obstruct traffic, the deputy replied that the twenty foot rule was his "law" and if they wanted to get along with him they should obey his "law." On another occasion a Deputy told the pickets that they were not a union and therefore had no right to picket.
9. During the picketing one day, two Deputy Sheriffs each placed their cars at opposite ends of the picket line and drove slowly toward one another squeezing the pickets together until the pickets were finally forced to move to another location. Some of the pickets claim that they were actually physically pushed by the Deputy's cars. One woman became sufficiently frightened that she needed to be helped away from the scene.

The above described incidents comprise only a partial listing of the abusive acts of the Sheriff's Department. We are now in the process of compiling a more comprehensive and specific list of incidents involving police misconduct. The purpose of sending this letter in advance of the completion of our more detailed report is to obtain an investigation of these activities by the responsible governmental authorities as soon as possible. Since the harvest will be completed within a few weeks it is important that the action of the Sheriff's Department be investigated as quickly as possible.

We feel that the above described incidents as well as others clearly establish that the Sheriff's Department has not acted with neutrality in this dispute and has in fact been partial to the growers. Moreover the conduct when viewed in its entirety establishes a clear pattern of harassment and intimidation of farm workers who are attempting to exercise their constitutional rights of freedom of speech and freedom of assembly. There are also racial overtones since virtually all the farm workers are Mexican-American. Of course, another undesirable effect of the conduct by the Sheriff's Department is to undermine respect for the normal processes of government and to destroy any belief that people of all races, whether rich or poor, in fact receive equal justice under law in this country.

We urge that your agency as a responsible governmental authority investigate this matter and we feel that we are entitled to a speedy response to our complaints. We feel that this is really a very simple and appropriate request.

We will of course cooperate fully in any investigation. The address of our office is 9162 West Polk, Tolleson, Arizona. The telephone number is Area Code 602--936-4535.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,



Gustavo Gutierrez  
Arizona Representative  
UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

## The Grape Fraud

Arizonans who lend themselves to the so-called grape boycott are, whether they know it or not, being used. Their cause is an emotional one, but like so many emotional causes it is a compound of misinformation and agitation.

Careful inspection of the subject by responsible journalists and the American Farm Bureau Federation suggests that the boycott is fraudulent. Far from helping impoverished farm workers, the boycott drive is aimed at helping a handful of agitators who do not represent the workers at all.

The point is made clear in a Farm Bureau pamphlet, "The Truth About the Grape Boycott," which shows that in 1967 the "United Farm Workers" organization of Cesar Chavez had 1,973 dues paying members out of some 170,000 farm workers and 60,000 plus grape workers in California.

"Thus," the Farm Bureau notes, "the union represents 1.2 per cent of all farm workers, and no more than 3 per cent of all grape workers."

The grape boycott campaign is taking place precisely because of this weakness of the United Farm Workers in obtaining membership. Unable to get workers to join up voluntarily, Chavez' union is trying to force contracts on growers which would require union membership of their employees.

By this method the union can come up with a large coerced membership it cannot get through freedom of choice.

As columnist James Jackson Kilpatrick reported: "Out in the fields, the workers speak of the Chavez union with fear and contempt. They tell of threatening telephone calls at night, of repeated acts of vandalism and intimidation. They are fearful that the beleaguered growers, anxious to end the nationwide boycott, may yet sell them like so many heads of lettuce to the UFWOC, which thereafter would control when and where they worked."

That is what the boycott is about—a side of the picture which somehow does not get mentioned by the liberal luminaries who appear on those TV talk shows, speaking in reverential tones of the wonderful Cesar Chavez and the great struggle in which he and his union are engaged.

In this area, Safeway stores are the principal target. Their crime, apparently, is that they allow customers the right to determine whether they will buy grapes. And if there is one thing the grape boycotters cannot tolerate, it is the right of the individual to make up his own mind.

The anti-grape lobbyists have the right to boycott grapes from now until Judgment Day. But they have no right to coerce Safeway or any other grocery chain into refusing to sell grapes or any other products.

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

Page 6

■

Sunday, May 11, 1969



# Valley stores selling grapes to be picketed

By JESUS A. BARKER

With cries of "Viva la raza" (long live the race) still ringing in their ears, supporters of a farm workers union said yesterday they will launch picketing at noon today of Valley supermarkets selling California grapes.

The picketers will gather at the Santa Rita Center, 1017 E. Hadley, for lunch at 10 a.m. They will receive "instructions" at 11 a.m. for a half-hour and then go to their designated areas to start picketing Safeway stores, according to an announcement last night.

A rally at the center last night, ostensibly called to urge Mexican-Americans to unite for improvement in their civil rights and economic plight, turned instead into a launch vehicle for the picketing.

The rally was sponsored by the National Farm Workers Association, a group seeking the unionizing of all migrant farm workers.

The Rev. Frank Yoldi, a priest at Sacred Heart Church, told the gathering the organizers want "no violence" but at the same time said that only through unity "can we gain social and economic justice for our people."

Cesar Chavez, the Californian who launched the move to unionize farm workers, was represented at the meeting by his older brother, Manuel, and by the Rev. Miguel Barreza, the music chronicler of the glories of Chavez.

Mr. Barreza, accompanying himself on the guitar, sang

several songs to the audience in Spanish. They were of the college "fight song" variety, urging unionization of the farm workers.

Manuel Chavez, who reportedly is here merely to urge support of the national boycott of California grapes, has not refuted suggestions his true mission is to have a showdown with Arizona growers, from whom the union will demand recognition. Here barely mentioned the boycott last night. Like the other speakers, he urged the unionization of migrants.

Manuel Rivera, an organizer from California, left doubts about his reasons for being in Arizona.

"We have gathered," he told the audience, "to continue our cause. The union is the only way to gain better wages, decent treatment and maybe even an education for our children."

X A mimeographed "information sheet" is to be given to the pickets today. It outlines procedures they are to use and notes a court decision which gives pickets rights on shopping center parking lots.

Arizona's grape crop is scheduled to be harvested next month. According to Chavez, the Arizona growers employ about 1,200 persons in the grape harvest.

Chavez sent telegrams to Arizona growers last week asking them to meet with him and other union officials, but said he has not received any replies.

# Grape Industry Pickets Cast Eyes On Arizona

By LOIS DOYLES

Arizona's grape growers—and pickers — are worried about reports that professional demonstrators, who have picketed California vineyards for years, might be eyeing the state's \$50 million crop.

Contacted by The Phoenix Gazette, Rex Lee, attorney representing the Arizona Grape Growers Association, confirmed that attempts have been made by the alleged labor representatives to meet with growers.

THE LATEST effort came last week, Lee said. He said

growers also received one telegram demanding that they meet with the picketers "for collective bargaining."

Grower response was to ignore the mandate "because they don't represent anybody," Lee explained.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Crop and Livestock Reporting division lists the 1966 crop at 13,000 tons, selling at \$201 a ton.

The State Employment Commission said 1,500 persons picked grapes during the June-July season last year in

Maricopa, Pinal and Yuma counties.

Most of the workers are local, Lee said. Many are high school students picking up vacation money or families who go as a unit to earn a little extra.

HE SAID Arizona has 5,000 acres of vineyard, with most of the fruit the table variety.

"These workers get excellent wages," Lee declared. He said in most cases growers pay the minimum of \$1.65 per hour plus incentive payments which are "greatly in excess of \$1.55."

With working hours from about 5 a.m. to noon, the attorney said many "make considerably in excess of \$50 a day."

Chief fear of the pickers is that labor rabble rousers will come in and "interfere with a good thing."

"THE GROWERS have no fear of discussing policies with any bona fide representative of the workers," Lee emphasized.

The Phoenix Gazette  
4-6-69

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

FILE COPY

TO : Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Rights Division

DATE: July 29, 1969

FROM : Director, FBI

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE -  
COMPLAINANT  
CIVIL RIGHTS

Reference is made to \_\_\_\_\_ memorandum dated \_\_\_\_\_  
(your file \_\_\_\_\_).

There is enclosed one copy of ~~the report of Special~~  
~~Agent~~ a letterhead memorandum dated July 24, 1969  
at Phoenix, Arizona.

A. ☐ This covers the preliminary investigation and no further action concerning a full investigation will be taken by this Bureau unless the Department so directs.

B. ☒ (b) in this investigation is continuing and you will be furnished copies of reports as they are received.

C. ☐ The investigation requested by you has now been completed. Unless advised to the contrary no further inquiries will be made by this Bureau.

D. ☐ Pursuant to instructions issued by the Department, no investigation will be conducted in this matter unless specifically directed by the Department.

E. ☐ Please advise whether you desire any further investigation.

F. ☐ This is submitted for your information and you will be advised of further developments.

G. ☐ This is submitted for your information and no further investigation will be conducted unless specifically requested by the Department.

H. ☐ This covers the receipt of a complaint and no further action will be taken by this Bureau unless the Department so directs.

Enc. NOTE: Pursuant to discussion between Mr. Charles W. Quaintance and SA [redacted] on 7-28-69, Gustavo Gutierrez, Arizona Representative, United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, will be interviewed for specific details.

7/30/69 309

July 29, 1969

1 - [REDACTED]

AIRTEL

EX-102

TO: SAC, Phoenix

FROM: Director, FBI

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;  
UNITED FARM WORKERS  
ORGANIZING COMMITTEE - COMPLAINANT  
CIVIL RIGHTS

Reurairtel and LHM dated 7-24-69.

In view of the allegations set forth in the letter from Gustavo Gutierrez dated 7-18-69, addressed to the United States Attorney at Phoenix, you should interview Gutierrez for specific details regarding any civil rights violations. Advise him that the interview is being conducted at the specific request of Assistant Attorney General Jerris Leonard of the Civil Rights Division.

Handle immediately and sulHM within five days of receipt of this airtel.

FJH:pjl  
(4)



Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

57 AUG 1969 TELETYPE UNIT ☐

310

NOTE:

Gutierrez, Arizona Representative of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, directed letter to the United States Attorney setting forth alleged civil rights violations by law enforcement officers in connection with a strike at several grape ranches located in the general area west of Phoenix, Arizona. Included in the allegations was a charge that a deputy sheriff stood by idly while a ranch foreman "roughed up" a priest who works with the farm workers. Gutierrez also advised that the incidents listed in his letter comprise only a partial listing and that they were in the process of compiling a more comprehensive and specific list involving police conduct. This was discussed with Departmental Attorney Charles W. Quaintance on 7-28-69, who requested that Gutierrez be interviewed for specific details. That conversation is being confirmed in writing.

F B I

Date: 8/1/69

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: *[Signature]* PHOENIX (62-1634) (P)UNSUBS;  
UNITED FARM WORKERS  
ORGANIZING COMMITTEE -  
COMPLAINANT  
CIVIL RIGHTS

Re Buairtel 7/29/69.

Complainant GUSTAVO GUTIERREZ currently  
in California and will not return until 8/4/69.  
He will be interviewed on that date.

REC 9

44-43004-2

2 - Bureau (AM)  
2 - Phoenix

AUG 4 1969

CLC/bwk  
(4)Approved: *[Signature]*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

M

Per *[Signature]*

312

FBI

Date: 8/5/69

REC-75

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, PHOENIX (62-1634) (C)

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;  
UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING  
COMMITTEE - COMPLAINANT  
CIVIL RIGHTS

Re Phoenix airtel, 7/24/69.  
Buairtel, 7/29/69.

There are enclosed herewith four copies of a letterhead memorandum setting forth the results of the interview with GUSTAVO GUTIERREZ at the latter's home at 309 Beck Avenue, Tempe, Arizona, on this date. The LHM is self-explanatory. Mr. GUTIERREZ advised that any further details would have to be obtained from the workers themselves.

Mr. GUTIERREZ commented parenthetically that his organizing committee has had the services of a legal committee of eight attorneys in the attached matter during the past ten days; that this "legal committee" referred to the activities of the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office as subtle harassment, but not concretely within the meaning of the civil rights statutes.

This LHM is submitted in a closed status for referral to the Department for its consideration as to the action that should be taken.

One copy of the LHM is being sent to the U. S. Attorney at Phoenix for his information.

(3) - Bureau (Enc. 4)  
2 - Phoenix  
CLC:gjk  
(5)

ENC. (cc CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT)

1cc: SAC Civil Rights Division  
Form 6-24 4 (JTB/nab)

8-11-69

4 AUG 12 1969

Approved: 55 AUG 20 1969  
Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

313



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Phoenix, Arizona

August 5, 1969

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS  
UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING  
COMMITTEE - COMPLAINANT  
CIVIL RIGHTS

There is attached hereto the known details of a series of grievances on the part of the United Farm Workers against the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office. Mr. Gustavo Gutierrez, Arizona Representative of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, submitted the complaint in typewritten form, which has been photocopied as attached.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

44-11

314



Re: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS  
UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE  
COMPLAINANT

---

"Tempe, Arizona  
August 5, 1969

"I, Gustavo Gutierrez, the Arizona representative of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, desire to furnish the attached documentation to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. It is my understanding that the F.B.I. may have investigative jurisdiction over the matter which I here present. This information augments in detail the particulars which I gave to the U. S. Attorney, Richard K. Burke, at Phoenix by letter dated July 15, 1969. This latter letter was in the form of a complaint that the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office was engaging in activities that may be violations of the civil rights of the United Farm Workers who are engaged in a labor controversy with the grape growers in Maricopa County.

"/s/ Gustavo Gutierrez

"Witnesses: [REDACTED], F.B.I., Phoenix, Arizona  
[REDACTED], FBI, Phoenix, Arizona"

Mel Huey (June 17, 1969)

The cars of the strikers were parked along the side of a dirt county road where we had been picketing. They were all facing in the same direction. When we decided to move to another field I stationed myself at the head of the chain of cars and began directing them to all turn off onto the side of the road where there was a kind of cul-de-sac so that they could all turn around with as little confusion and danger as possible. Gustavo Gutierrez was standing about in the middle of the cul-de-sac also directing traffic. At no time did any officer approach me and tell me that I was violating any law by standing in the road directing our cars. Shortly I heard Gus yell to me but I could not hear what he was saying. Lt. Lane was with him. He yelled again and again I couldn't hear him so I started to walk toward him to see what I wanted. When I was about half way to him Lt. Lane stopped me and told me I was under arrest. That was the first time I had been told that I could possibly have been violating any laws. As it was Lt. Lane had told Gus that I shouldn't have been there and that was why Gus yelled at me, but I never had a chance to find out what he wanted. I was then handcuffed and placed under arrest.

Note: At Mel's trial Dept. Robt Case Star, the arresting officer, testified that Huey was attempting to stop traffic, was an extreme traffic hazard, and had been warned several times to get out of the road. He also testified that he was blocking traffic at the time he was apprehended. However it was an out of the way dirt road and the only cars in the vicinity were those of the picketers and the sheriffs' vehicles.

Pauly Chavez (July 4, 1969) *PRID*

The sheriff stopped Joe, one of the strikers, on Cactus Lane. Mel and I were walking farther down Cactus Lane to go talk to other work crews farther down the road. The officer yelled to us when we were about 40 feet from them to "stop and don't go any farther." When he said this he was standing in the middle of the road with his hand on his gun. He told him we were just going farther down the road to picket and he again said "no." I then said in other words you're saying we can't picket. He replied "I just said stay there."

I asked him for his badge number and name and he said he'd give it to me when he finished. They kept Joe about 15 minutes and finally gave him a repair order. I asked the officer again for his name and number and he walked over to the other sheriff and asked him something. Then he turned to me and said "Forget it." I asked him what he said and he again replied "I said forget it." He then got in his car and left without giving me the information.

Pauly Chavez (July 7, 1969)

We were picketing the Santa Fe Railroad in the evening in an attempt to stop the train from going through to pick up grapes. Officer Fred Burrows (Badge # 250), of the Maricopa County Sheriffs Dept drove his car up on the pickets as they marked on public property. Officer C.M. Hoagluno (#357) drove his car up from the other side closing the gap resulting in the pickets having to move to the other side of the road. The Lt. in charge was J. Hill. This happened at 8:25 p.m.

Pauly Chavez (continued)

Due to this harrassment, Mrs. Andreas Gallegos who was almost hit by officer Burrows was so scared by this activity she almost fainted and had to be taken into a car for treatment. Mrs. Gallegos lives at 11520 N. 79th Ave. Mrs. Soledad Belarde was also pushed by one of the police cars. Altogether there were 3 patrol cars present, 11 officers and the paddy wagon.

Mrs. Andrea Gallegos (July 7, 1969) AP 12 her account of same incident

We were walking on the picket line. The sheriffs parked their cars on either side of the tracks and the pickets had to walk between the two cars. Each sheriff moved his car approximately four feet from the tracks so that the 25 - 30 of us present were supposed to march between that space. As they moved their cars closer, they came up against the people, actually touching them with their cars. I became so upset by the sheriffs' actions that I had to be taken away when I felt I was becoming ill. I was then unable to continue picketing for the remainder of the time the pickets were there. We then moved the picket line to the other shoulder of the road.

Carolina Rosales AP 12

Even though in three solid weeks of picketing there have been no arrests except for the first day when two men were arrested for supposedly blocking traffic (see above account of Mel Huey) the sheriffs have brought out their paddy wagon just about every day. Often they back it up right next to the picket line and open the door. Other time they park it directly across the street from the picketers or drive it slowly back and forth past the picket line. Also I have frequently seen officers go into the fields to get grapes from the ranchers and then return to their cars to eat them.

Elias Talavera (July 1, 1969) AP 12

While picketing at the Bodine ranch, one of the ranch supervisors who I saw several time inside the ranch during the day, drove his Buick Riviera with a smashed rear up to the sheriff parked outside and gave him a thermos bottle. Pauly also saw this same man bring the sheriff a thermos earlier in the day.

Pauly Chavez (July 6, 1969)

I was distributing leaflets with Tony Mendoza at the corner of Cotton and Olive. I had asked two plain clothes men who were there if it would be all right. They said it would be all right if I didn't obstruct traffic. We continued to do so and the plainclothesmen watched us. Then Lt. Land drove around the corner, stopped his car and came up to me. He shouted at me "Get out of the goddamn road" I said that I wasn't on the road but on the shoulder. He then repeated "Get out of the goddamn road."

Elias Talavera (July 4, 1969) AP 12

Pauly and I were standing by the side of the road picketing. Officer Pitts who was parked nearby called Pauly over to his car and said "Listen Buster, I'm going to tell you once and only once not to throw things at passing cars. The next time I tell you anything I'll be advising you of your rights." I had been with Pauly the whole time and nothing had been thrown at any time. The passing car that occasioned this warning had been one of our own anyway.

*M. M. also hand*  
*Li C*  
Caroline Rosales (Jun. 8, 1969)

We thought we spotted Coach Arney from Peoria in the fields but weren't sure it was him because of his glasses and beard. So we called him on the P.A. system. He looked at us but we still weren't sure it was him. About 50 yards frp, is were Ed Estfan and another striker. Lt. Lane who was near Ed called one of the foremen over and told him on his own initiative that the strikers had recognized Arney and that if they didn't want him harassed should move him farther back into the fields. Ed Estfan heard this conversation and the officer's recommendation was totally unsolicited. This happened at the Boswell Ranch. *See Ely*  
*See 6-11*

Usually when we ask for clarification from any of the sheriffs about whether or not we can do something lawfully then are very aloof and accusing in their attitude. The officers usually let you know that they think they are doing us a favor for letting us picket, park on county roads, and even blow our auto horns.

(June 18, 1969) Caroline (continued)

On the second day of the strike we had our sound car on one side of the road with the speaker on the other with the cord lying flat across the road. One of the sheriffs told us we couldn't lay anything across the road. We asked him what law said we couldn't. He stammered and then said it's just against the law. Then we talked to our lawyers and they went over and talked with the police and after that they said nothing about the cord

That same day we walked along the railroad tracks that ran adjacent to Boswell's field so we could talk to the workers who were farther in the field. The police then came to us on their own initiative and ordered our people off the tracks. Our lawyers then told them that the tracks were railroad property and that the sheriffs had no jurisdiction to order us off but that the railroad would have to do so. We then stayed there about half the morning until a representative from the railroad came and ordered us off the tracks.

Note: I believe attorneys Wilks and Ely were the men involved in the above incidents and should have more information on them.

Lupe Mondoza

I was going to join the picket line at Waddell Rd & Cotton Lane where there is a 4-way stop at that intersection. I came to a stop then pulled thru the intersection to park my car alongside the road. There was a sheriff parked on Cotton Lane facing north near the stop sign. He got out of his car and walked over to me. He claimed I had stoppped too far past the stop sign on Waddell road and asked for my license. Then Fr. Robert, one of the picketers came over and asked the sheriff why he was questioning me when only a few minutes earlier when one of the worker's driving from the camp had gone right through the stop sign right in front of the officer he had done nothing about it. The officer claimed he didn't see any violation. He was going to give me a ticket until Fr. Robert came up and questioned him about the other car. Since the other man was going to work he didn't bother him, but since he saw I was a striker he wanted to find something wrong.

318

Elias Talavera (July 8, 1969; 10 a.m.) Arakelian Ranch

We were standing together talking to the workers who had come to the edge of the field to listen to us when a police car driven by officer Schultz (Badge 162) car 11933 passed us, came to a sudden stop, and backed up almost hitting several of us. He came so close we had to move to keep from being hit since he was backing up pretty fast. He yelled very loudly at us asking us what we were doing. His voice was very angry. I (Maria) was frightened with the whole incident. I (Estella) had to warn the others to jump aside to avoid being hit. We told him that we were just talking to the workers.

The Schultz went over to Elias telling him that he had just received a call saying that there was trouble in that area and that when he saw the group of picketers he knew he had found it. Elias related that absolutely nothing had happened in this vicinity and that the officer was almost violent and outraged with the picketers.

Fr. Robert Corriell June 27, 1969 Tal-Wi-Wi Ranch  
*APIL*

When Ted Calded, Bill Soltero and I approached 2 sheriffs to complain about Wilbur Buslong removing my huelga button and hat and refusing to return them to me he said "Why don't you wait for Lt. Lane to come back" We insisted he take action so finally after hesitating he complied by taking the information, entering the grape field, and removing my hat from the road where it had been smashed by the tractor. Then a Mexican Detective from the sheriffs department was sent out to discourage me from filing a complaint against Bushlong. He asked if my action would "hurt or help" the cause, etc. He concluded "Well if you still want to file go down to the county attorney. Once again at the County they tried to dissuade me from filing even to bringing "religion" into the issue by saying "What would God do in this case?" I insisted they press charges which they finally did.

Note: at this trial on July 17 in the Peoria Justice Court JP Skrubbellis of Wickenburg found Mr. Bushlong not guilty since he claimed there was so much noise in the area from the strikers that the peace had already been breached by their actions and Mr. Bushlong's activity could not therefore constitute a breach of the peace.

Joe Guevara *APIL*

One day when we finished picketing at Bodine, one of the sheriffs followed me all the way to our office in Tolleson. This was a distance of about 20 miles. He never stopped until we got to the office. Even there he said nothing to me because he had no cause to follow me in the first place.

Joe Guevara (July 10, 1969) 5 a.m.

I was leaving El Dorado's fields by one of the middle dirt roads when one of the sheriffs (Officer Young or Malone) followed me about one mile. He finally stopped me and asked for identification. I gave it to him. At that time another officer came and asked my name. As soon as I told him my name he told me I was under arrest. As far as I know the arresting officer never saw me in the field. Then Lt. Lane came and talked to the officers. They then took me to Tal-Wi-Wi Ranch where they put me in a paddy wagon where I waited about 2 hours. When we got Peoria I was handcuffed to another man. At that time they let him go to talk to his lawyer. The officer then said to me "I won't lock the handcuffs again but if you run!";

319

I'll just shoot you in the head" I don't know if O was serious. I guess he was just trying to frighten me.

Alberto Romero ARIZ

One morning I drove with Gustavo to Litchfield from Arakelian Ranch to buy a newspaper and make a phone call. One of the sheriffs followed us all the way into Litchfield. He then waited while we made the call and then followed us all the way back.

Mel Huey ARIZ

Gus and I and four others in the car were following the bus of contractor Rosales which goes to El Mirage and Surprise. We followed them for about four miles when on Waddell Rd one of the sheriffs cars got in front of us and deliberately tried to slow us down so we would lose the bus. Then in El Mirage the sheriff got in front of us and the El Mirage patrol car behind us. They stopped us and said we couldn't follow and "harass" the people like that. They took all our identification. Gus said that we had a right to talk to the people and their homes. Then we left and tried to catch the bus again on Grand Avenue. Then the same police car stopped us again and said one of the sheriffs wanted to talk to us at the police station in El Mirage and asked us to follow him there. We went to the police station but there was no sheriff. They asked us our names and addresses again and then told us to leave. They actually had nothing to talk to us about but only wanted to prevent us from following the bus which we had a right to do.

On another occasion Albert Torres and a few other men who had been on strike with us decided to go back to work at Sikes Ranch where there was no strike at the time. The sheriffs spotted them on the road and followed them all the way into the ranch. There the sheriff deputy went to the foreman and told him that these men had been on strike and had been picketing.

Mel (July 12)

I saw a dirt clod thrown from inside the field hit a striker's car. The striker went and complained to the sheriff who indifferently replied "I don't know who threw it." No effort was made to investigate the incident or to speak to a foreman to prevent further incidents.

Connie Matta & Mellie Renteria (July 12, 1969) ARIZ

We were driving to get water and as I passed through the other group of picketers I honked to them. Officer McCloskey heard me and then came after me with his lights blinking. I stopped. He came and asked me for my license and I told him I didn't have it with me. He asked my name and address and called in to see if I had a license and they told him yes. Then I asked him why he stopped me. He said because there was a law against honking horns. I told him we had been doing it since the beginning of the strike and the officers never said anything before. He said the rule started yesterday morning. Then I said they hadn't told us about that rule. Mellie then said that the police were just harassing the people on strike. He said he was on nobody's side. I then asked him why they didn't do anything when

the people in the ... is threw rocks at us. Then he ... "Listen girl . I can give you two tickets, one for honking and one for talking back to an officer and ... could arrest you too." So I said go ahead. Then Gus was coming and McCluskey said to me if those guys come I'm going to tell them to leave and if they don't leave they're going to be thrown in jail. When Gus asked what we had done , McCluskey wouldn't tell him anything. He just told him to leave and go back and join the other people.

Alfredo Gutierrez (July 12, 1969) continuation of above incident

We saw a sheriff stop a car down the road with two girls in it who were strikers. So Gus and I drove down to see why they had stopped the car. When we got out of the car the officer with the girls said get back in your car and get out of here. Gus asked him why and he said I'm conducting official business here and I don't want you interfering. I asked him if we could wait in our car. He said "I'm telling you to get out of here" Then I asked how far we had to go. He said I'll tell you in about 30 seconds. Then another patrol car drove up. Right then, McCloskey, the officer questioning the girls told us we were under arrest and said put your hands on the car. We asked him why we were under arrest and he said for disobeying a lawful order. They then searched us, handcuffed both of us behind our backs. Then Lt. Lane came and asked why McCloskey had arrested us and he told him. Lane said OK. Then the paddy wagon came and Lane told the driver to take him (pointing to Gus) right in. McCloskey then said to me "I'll teach you that when I give you an order I mean it; I'll teach you respect for an officer." They then handcuffed us together and put us in the paddy wagon.

Juan Alvarez *AP 12*

We were the last car out from the picket line and one of the sheriffs stopped us. The only reason he gave us was he claimed our license plate was dirty. He wouldn't allow us to ask any questions and became very defensive when we did ask him some. He kept Bert and I about 15 minutes checking our identification and telling us how well he knew the law. He called Bert a "hippie" and even made him show identification even though he was only a passenger in my car and the alleged reason for stopping was the dirty plate.

Another thing that is very obvious is that Lt. Lane, the officer in charge of the sheriffs is always very defensive whenever you ask him questions.

Jim Kutkowski July 15, 1969 5:15 a.m.

We started setting up the picket line around 5 a.m. and while we were doing so Lt. Lane came over to Gus and warned him about making too much noise with the P.A. system or that the family across the street would file a complaint. Gus had to leave for a while and about 11 minutes later Raul Gallegos began using the system to say huelga to the workers in the fields. He had not said it more than three or four times when Lane came over and asked if he had talked with Gus about using the system. During this time one of the foremen had driven up in his pickup ( #GN 7321) and was having an obviously friendly conversation with Lane. Lane then told Raul that if he didn't stop using the system the man next door would file a complaint, and all the picketers would be named in it and he implied they all would be arrested. After this the owner of the ranch joined Lane and the foreman and continued the friendly conversation. The owner then went over and talked with the man in the house who Lane said had threatened to make the con-

One of the ranch's dusters was at this time dusting a nearby field and circling right over the picketers and the house in motion and making much more noise than all the picketers and PA system together (Cropduster #N45280). At the group of picketers about 1/4 mile away one of the sheriffs went up and took the names and addresses of all the picketers and warned them about using the small hand megaphone (which couldn't even be heard at the houses involved because I stood in the road in front of the house and could hear nothing from the other group. When asked why he was taking names the officer said a complaint had been filed. If asked if it had been filed that morning he did not reply. Lt. Lane said that the complaint had not yet been filed but would be if we used the PA system. Lane himself said to me that if he lived in that house he would file a complaint just for being there and shouting to the workers and that he would have each member of the household file a complaint against each one of the strikers.

Around 6:15 the jets at Luke Field about 1 mile away started firing up their engines and again you could hardly hear the strikers above the roar of the engines.

Later Lt. Lane said "Those damn Filipinos already went into the field so I don't care what they do. I know what I would do if I lived there."

Jim Rutkowski (July 1, 1969)

Around 6 a.m. I was picketing at an entrance to Bodine Ranch with Elias Talavera and George. The main body of picketers had moved to another entrance about 1/2 mile away. Officer E.C. Price was sitting in his car parked on the opposite side of the road. A small panel truck pulled up and parked about 30 feet behind Price and four Anglo teen-age boys got out and started into the field at the entrance where we were picketing. I walked up to them and asked if they had come to work there. They stopped and answered yes they had. I asked if they knew there was a strike going on. They looked confused so I asked if they knew what a strike was. One of the boys answered "no" So I pointed to the body of picketers and told the boys they were grape workers who had left the field and started to explain further. At that time Price came across the road and stepped right between me and the boys. He did not wait to listen but immediately asked them "Did you boys come here to work" They said yes. He then nodded to one of the guards inside the gate and said sternly "That's the man you want to see" The boys obviously took this as an order and immediately walked over to the guard who directed them further into the field.

I then asked Price why he had come over and frightened the boys away. He answered that there was no law against him coming to listen to what I said. I told him again that I was only talking to the boys and that he had no right to order the boys into the field. I again asked him why he did it. He became defensive and said he didn't have to answer any questions and returned to his car.

Alberto Gallindo (June 26)

ARI2

At about 10 a.m. I was asked by 4 high school students who had walked out of J.G. Boswell Ranch if I couldn't help them get their paychecks. The standard policy has been to contact Lt. Lane and he would go through the appropriate procedures of contacting the rancher. The boys told me Lt. Lane was going to meet them at 10 a.m. and as he hadn't arrived yet I took one student over to officer Pitts and Stanley and explained the situation. I then asked if they couldn't call Lt. Lane. They said there was no way for them to contact



him and that we should go meet him at the ranch. I explained that he wanted to meet the kids first and that once someone went on strike they had to be escorted by a sheriff to get their money otherwise they could be arrested for trespassing. I again asked if they couldn't call Lt. Lane on their radio. Officer Pitts then said in a loud voice "Furk You" I then asked his partner (who was standing by him) if he'd heard what Pitts had said. Stanley replied "I didn't hear a word."

Seeing that I'd get no cooperation I crossed the road. Approximately 15 minutes later Lt. Lane appeared and I explained the incident. He shook his head and then took the kids to get their checks. Lt Lane made no attempt to speak to his subordinates. This is a typical example of the lackadasical and contemptuous attitude of the Maricopa County Police Dept toward the strikers.

On another occasion I asked another sheriff why he didn't stop the teen age truckdrivers who were obviously underage and driving trucks of grapes on county roads. He only told me "if we enforce every law out here you guys couldn't even picket since the law says that county roads can be used for no other purpose except moving vehicles. I told him that I would question the constitutionality of stopping us but I wouldn't hesitate stopping minors from driving 1½ - 2 ton vehicles on county roads without a license.

#### Juan Alvarez

Right after the arrest of Gustavo Gutierrez and Alfredo we started moving the picketers to another field. As our line of cars was moving along the road we passed a patrol car and the sheriff inside stuck his arm out the window waving a pair of handcuffs to all the strikers in the passing cars.